crores and outstandngs (credit) were Rs. 1183.00 crores.

Agreements Signed between India and USA

*736. SHRI VENKATRAM REDDY:
DR. SHRIKANT
RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the agreements which were signed between India and USA during the Prime Minister's recent visit to USA;

(h) what is in brief the nature of these agreements;

(c) in what manner these will be beneficial to India; and

(d) how far negotiations on extradition treaty between India and USA have progressed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) The two MOUs signed during PM's recent visit to the US are :

(i) MOU on Cooperative Measures to Increase Awareness and Support for Efforts to Combat Production, Distribution and Use of Illegal Drugs.

(ii) MOU on Planning, Conservation and Management of Natural and Cultural Heritage Sites.

(h) The MOU to combat illegal drugs envisages joint, cooperative, long-term programmes to raise awareness and build support for anti-narcotics activities to counter the production, distribution and consumption of illegal drugs.

The MOU on heritage sites envisages cooperation in environmental planning and design to enhance special environment and heritage sites of national and international significance through exchange of technical information, cooperative research, professional workshops, training etc.

(c) The MOU on illegal drugs would further Indo-US cooperation in the field of increasing awareness and support for efforts to combat narcotics trafficking. The adaptation modern techniques of mass communication and information exchanges would increase effectiveness of the measures undertaken by the two Governments. It would also encourage non-governmental and private sector organizations in their anti-drug activities.

The MOU on heritage sites would facilitate better planning, conservation and management of natural and cultural heritage sites on the basis of exchange of technical information, research, visitor services etc.

(d) Extradition arrangement between India and the US are governed at present by the Extradition Treaty concluded by the UK with the US on 22 December, 1931, acceded to on behalf of India on 9 March, 1942, and which continues to be in force since 1947. The first round of talks on a new Extradition Treaty between India and US were held from 28 September to 1 October, 1993 in New Delhi. A broad measure of agreement was reached on the text, with only a few issues remaining outstanding.

It is expected that a further round of negotiations will be held fairly soon with a view to resolving these remaining issues.

Recommendations of Swaminathan Committee

*737. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Expert Committee headed by Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, was appointed to review the progress of the Family Planning Programmes in the country;

(b) whether the Committee has

submitted its report .recently;

(c) if so, what are the salient features thereof;

(d) what action has been initiated by Government on the recommendations of the Committee; and

(e) what are the other details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SIIANKARANAND): (a) The Committoo was constituted to prepare the preliminary draft of the National Population Policy.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) While dealing with the entire gamut of population issues the Committee has made among others the following major recommendations:—

(i) Integration of gender equity in Plans for Health and Family Welfare.

(ii) Creation of an enabling environment and empowerment mechanism to accelerate the march towards goal of population stabilization by achieving a TFR of 2.1 by 2010.

(iii) Speedy and effective implementation of the minimum needs programme.

(iv) Provision of maternal and child health and family planning services based on informed choice.

(v) involvement of Panchayati Raj and Municipal institutions for achieving imputation stabilisation.

(vi) Creation of population and Social Development Fund for filling the critical gaps in implementation.

(vii) Constitution of Population and Social Development Commission for implementing population stabilisation programmes through inter-sectoral convergence.

(d) and (c) The report of the Committee was received on 24th May, 1994. Constitutions with the State/UT Government and other Ministries/Departments have been initiated.

Memorandum of Understanding Signed by Government with Oman Oil Company

*738. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Memorandum of Understanding signed by Petroleum Ministry with Oman Oil Company would result in price equation of per million BTU at Rs. 4000;

(b) whether it is a fact that price of imported gas at the down stream customer level per million BTU would be 230 PC higher as compared to the ONGC's price;

(c) what is the prices charged by ONGC per million BTU at the down stream level;

(d) whether Oman gas would be uniformly priced in India;

(e) what is the likely return to the Oman Oil Company per annum on percentage basis on the capital employed in , the project; and

(f) what is the project cost of the pipe line up to the land fall point and estimated consumption per day and potential of consumption and absorption capacity of the down stream project on its availability?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (f) The delivered price of the gas proposed to be imported from Oman is under discussion with the Oman Oil Company. The Oman Oil Company has indicated that the investment in two pipelines to carry 56.6 MPSCND of gas will be around US $ 5 billion. Sufficient demand to absorb this quantity of gas has been identified from